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Message Text

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ACTION IO-13

INFO OCT-01 AF-08 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04
H-01 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01
SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 DHA-02 OMB-01 TRSE-00 EB-08
/090 W
----------191700Z 128224 /41
R 182336Z MAR 77
FM USMISSION USUN NEW YORK
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2833
INFO AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY PRETORIA
AMCONSUL CAPETOWN

C O N F I D E N T I A L USUN 0821

CAPETOWN FOR EMBASSY

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PFOR, US, UN, SF, WA
SUBJECT: CONTACT WITH CHIEF KAPUUO REPRESENTATIVE

1. CHIEF KAPUUO REP RIRUAKO CALLED MISOFF MARCH 18 TO MAKE PITCH FOR USG UNDERSTANDING OF TURNHALLE CONFERENCE AND INTERIM NAMIBIAN GOVERNMENT. HE HAD JUST RETURNED FROM NAMIBIA, WHERE HE SAID HE HAD PUT TOGETHER COALITION OF 9 OF 11 GROUPS PRESENT AT WINDHOEK (EXCEPTING "WHITES" AND REPS OF THE SWA NATIONALIST PARTY) IN ORDER TO DEAL WITH THE WHITES AND THE SOUTH AFRICAN GOVERNMENT FROM POSITION OF UNITY AND STRENGTH. HE SAID THE NINE HAD NAMED HIM AS THEIR NEW YORK SPOKESMAN.

2. RIRUAKO NOTED THAT THERE WERE ONLY TWO PROBLEMS REMAINING AT THE CONFERENCE: DIRK MUDGE'S POSITION IN THE NEW GOVERNMENT AND THE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN SWA NATIONALIST PARTY AND SA NATIONALIST PARTY. HE SAID MANY BLACKS
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ARE URGING MUDGE TO TAKE A LESS VISIBLE BUT MORE POWERFUL MINISTERIAL POSITION RATHER THAN ACCEPTING APPOINTMENT AS "CHAIRMAN", IN ORDER TO MAKE THE INTERIM GOVERNMENT LESS VULNERABLE TO CHARGES OF BEING A "PUPPET". FOR SAME REASONS, MANY DELEGATES WANT SWANP TO SPLIT FROM SANP.

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3. RIRUAKO REITERATED HIS UNHAPPINESS AT THE NAMING
OF SWAPO BY THE OAU AND THE UN AS THE LEGITIMATE REPRE-
SENTATIVE OF THE NAMIBIAN PEOPLE, WITHOUT CONSULTING
THE NAMIBIANS THEMSELVES. HE DOUBTED THE FAIRNESS OF ELECTIONS
SUPERVISED BY THE UN, SINCE THE UN RECOGNIZED ONLY SWAPO.
HE SAID THAT THE INTERIM GOVERNMENT SHOULD TAKE OVER
ABOUT JULY 1 AND THAT AFTER NAMIBIA ACHIEVES ITS INDEPENDENCE,
ON DECEMBER 31, 1978, THE KAPUUO GOVERNMENT WILL PROVE
TO THE WORLD THAT IT IS NOT A PUPPET OF THE SOUTH AFRICANS
AND THAT IT TRULY REPRESENTS THE PEOPLE OF NAMIBIA.
RIRUAKO CLAIMED THAT MANY AFRICAN REPRESENTATIVES AT THE
UN, "EVEN RADICALS LIKE THE TANZANIANS", HAVE TOLD HIM
PRIVATELY THAT AFRICANS WILL ACCEPT KAPUUO GOVERNMENT
AS LEGITIMATE AFTER IT PROVES ITSELF FOLLOWING INDEPENDENCE.
(NOTE: RIRUAKO HAS MISREPRESENTED STATEMENTS MADE BY US
AND OTHERS IN THE PAST WHEN IT SERVED HIS INTERESTS.)

4. RIRUAKO STATED THAT HE HAS MET SECRETARY VANCE
SEVERAL TIMES AND KNOWS HIM "PRETTY WELL". HE SAID THAT
HE WOULD REQUEST A MEETING WITH THE SECRETARY SOME TIME
PRIOR TO THE ESTABLISHMENT OF THE INTERIM GOVERNMENT TO
BRIEF HIM ON THE SITUATION. HE SAID THAT HE WANTED THE
USG TO RECOGNIZE KAPUUO'S GOVERNMENT, OR AT LEAST NOT
STAND IN ITS WAY. HE ENDED THE CALL BY SPECULATING THAT
IN THE FUTURE HE MIGHT REQUEST THE ASSISTANCE OF THE
USG IN SETTING UP A MEETING BETWEEN CHIEF KAPUUO AND
SAM NUJOMA OF SWAPO.

5. MISOFF LISTENED TO RIRUAKO WITHOUT COMMENT EXCEPT
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TO SAY HE WOULD TRANSMIT REMARKS TO WASHINGTON.
SHERER

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
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Control Number: n/a
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Sent Date: 18-Mar-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
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Disposition History: n/a
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Disposition Remarks:
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Subject: CONTACT WITH CHIEF KAPUUO REPRESENTATIVE
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